

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A button capable of entry and exit with respect to a base, said button comprising:
a button member having a shaft portion mounted in a manner that allows entry and exit with respect to the base, and an expanded-diameter portion with a shaft diameter that is larger than the diameter of the shaft portion;
a ring member with the shaft portion inserted therethrough, capable of rotating about the axial center of the shaft portion;
a lock member that is caused to move along the axial center between the ring member and the shaft portion by the rotation of the ring member, and that restricts the entry and exit action of the button member by coming into contact with the expanded-diameter portion of the button member; and
a fixed member fixed to the base, for stopping the ring member to restrict the movement of the ring member along the axial center.
2. The button according to claim 1, wherein the lock member has a hole through which the shaft portion is inserted in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center but does not allow relative rotation about the axial center, and an external periphery in threadable engagement with the ring member.
3. The button according to claim 2, wherein the fixed member comprises an insert that is press-fitted into the base along the shaft portion of the button member, and a stopper portion for stopping the ring member.
4. The button according to claim 1, wherein the lock member has a hole for threadably engaging the fixed member, and an external peripheral portion for engaging the ring member in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center but does not allow relative rotation about the axial center.
5. The button according to claim 1, wherein the lock member has a locked state indicator that is exposed from between the expanded-diameter portion and the ring portion in a state wherein the entry and exit action of the button member is restricted.
6. The button according to claim 1, further comprising a restricting member for restricting the rotational movement of the ring member and/or the rotating or reciprocating movement of the lock member, disposed in at least one location between the ring member and

the fixed member, between the ring member and the lock member, and between the lock member and the base or the fixed member.

7. The button according to claim 6, wherein the restricting member comprises a packing material.

8. The button according to claim 6, wherein the restricting member comprises a spring member.

9. The button according to claim 1, further comprising an elastic member disposed between the button member and the base, to urge the button member in the direction protruding from the base.

10. The button according to claim 9, wherein the elastic member is disposed between the expanded-diameter portion of the button member and the fixed member.

11. Portable equipment comprising:
a portable equipment main body; and
a button capable of entry and exit with respect to the portable equipment main body, said button including a button member having a shaft portion mounted in a manner that allows entry and exit with respect to the base and an expanded-diameter portion with a shaft diameter that is larger than the diameter of the shaft portion, a ring member with the shaft portion inserted therethrough, capable of rotating about the axial center of the shaft portion, a lock member that is caused to move along the axial center between the ring member and the shaft portion by the rotation of the ring member and that restricts the entry and exit action of the button member by coming into contact with the expanded-diameter portion of the button member, and a fixed member fixed to the portable equipment main body, for stopping the ring member so as to restrict the movement of the ring member along the axial center.

12. A button capable of entry and exit with respect to a base, said button comprising:
a button member having a shaft portion mounted in a manner that allows entry and exit with respect to the base, an expanded-diameter portion with a shaft diameter that is larger than the diameter of the shaft portion, and a cylindrically shaped portion that extends to the external end of the expanded-diameter portion and is disposed surrounding the shaft portion;
a lock member having an internal peripheral portion through which the shaft portion is inserted in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center of the shaft portion

between the shaft portion and the cylindrically shaped portion, and an external peripheral portion that threadably engages the internal periphery of the cylindrically shaped portion of the button member; and

a fixed member that is fixed to the base and supports the lock member in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center but does not allow relative rotation about the axial center,

wherein the entry and exit action of the button member is restricted such that the lock member moves along the axial center due to the rotation of the button member, and the lock member makes contact therewith.

13. The button according to claim 12, further comprising a restricting member to restrict the rotational movement of the button member and/or the rotating or reciprocating movement of the lock member, disposed in at least one location between the cylindrically shaped portion and the fixed member, between the cylindrically shaped portion and the lock member, and between the lock member and the fixed member.

14. The button according to claim 13, wherein the restricting member comprises a packing material.

15. The button according to claim 12, further comprising an elastic member disposed between the button member and the base, to urge the button member in the direction protruding from the base.

16. The button according to claim 15, wherein the elastic member is disposed between the expanded-diameter portion of the button member and the fixed member.

17. Portable equipment comprising:
a portable equipment main body; and
a button capable of entry and exit with respect to the portable equipment main body, said button comprising a button member having a shaft portion mounted in a manner that allows entry and exit with respect to the portable equipment main body, an expanded-diameter portion with a shaft diameter that is larger than the diameter of the shaft portion, and a cylindrically shaped portion that extends to the external end of the expanded-diameter portion and is disposed surrounding the shaft portion, a lock member having an internal peripheral portion through which the shaft portion is inserted in a manner that allows relative movement

along the axial center of the shaft portion between the shaft portion and the cylindrically shaped portion, and an external peripheral portion that threadably engages the internal periphery of the cylindrically shaped portion of the button member, and a fixed member that is fixed to the base and supports the lock member in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center but does not allow relative rotation about the axial center, wherein the entry and exit action of the button member is restricted such that the lock member moves along the axial center due to the rotation of the button member, and the lock member makes contact therewith.

18. A button capable of entry and exit with respect to a base, said button comprising:
a button member having a shaft portion mounted in a manner that allows entry and exit with respect to the portable equipment main body, an expanded-diameter portion with a shaft diameter that is larger than the diameter of the shaft portion, and a cylindrically shaped portion that extends to the external end of the expanded-diameter portion and is disposed surrounding the shaft portion;

a lock member having an internal peripheral portion through which the shaft portion is inserted in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center of the shaft portion between the shaft portion and the cylindrically shaped portion, and an external peripheral portion that threadably engages the internal periphery of the cylindrically shaped portion of the button member; and

a fixed member that is fixed to the base and supports the lock member in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center but does not allow relative rotation about the axial center,

wherein the entry and exit action of the button member is restricted such that the lock member moves along the axial center due to the rotation of the button member, and the lock member makes contact therewith.

19. The button according to claim 18, further comprising a restricting member to restrict the rotational movement of the button member and/or the rotating or reciprocating movement of the lock member, disposed in at least one location between the cylindrically shaped portion and the fixed member, between the cylindrically shaped portion and the lock member, and between the lock member and the fixed member.

20. The button according to claim 18, wherein the restricting member comprises a packing material.

21. The button according to claim 18, further comprising an elastic member disposed between the button member and the base, to urge the button member in a direction protruding from the base.

22. The button according to claim 21, wherein the elastic member is disposed between the expanded-diameter portion of the button member and the fixed member.

23. Portable equipment, comprising:
a portable equipment main body; and
a button comprising a button member having a shaft portion mounted in a manner that allows entry and exit with respect to the base, an expanded-diameter portion with a shaft diameter that is larger than the diameter of the shaft portion, and a cylindrically shaped portion that extends to the external end of the expanded-diameter portion and is disposed surrounding the shaft portion, a lock member having an internal peripheral portion through which the shaft portion is inserted in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center of the shaft portion between the shaft portion and the cylindrically shaped portion, and an external peripheral portion that is disposed in a manner that allows relative movement along the axial center with respect to the cylindrically shaped portion of the button member but does not allow relative rotation, a fixed member that is fixed to the base and threadably engages the external peripheral portion of the lock member, wherein the fixed member restricts the entry and exit action of the button member such that the lock member moves along the axial center due to the rotation of the button member, and the lock member makes contact therewith.